

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A fingertip-mounted minimally invasive surgical instrument comprising:
 - a) a finger mount, having a proximal and distal end, and a cavity for releasably receiving a fingertip; and
 - b) an ultrasonic transducer and receiver positioned on the distal end of the finger mount.
2. The fingertip-mounted minimally invasive surgical instrument of claim 1, further comprising a pressure switch located at the distal end of the finger mount.
3. The fingertip-mounted minimally invasive surgical instrument of claim 1, further comprising a feedback transducer positioned within the cavity.
4. The surgical instrument of claim 1, wherein the transducer is a crystal array.
5. A method of performing a minimally invasive surgical procedure in a patient comprising:
 - a) creating an incision to permit hand access within the patient;
 - b) introducing a hand instrument comprising:
 - i) a finger mount, having a proximal and distal end, and a cavity for releasably receiving a fingertip; and
 - ii) an ultrasonic transducer and receiver positioned on the distal end of the finger mount; and
 - c) actuating the transducer to sense a operational site within the patient.

6. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of releasably engaging a finger with the hand instrument.
7. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of activating the transducer to image the surgical site
8. The method of claim 5 further comprising the step of actuating the transducer to provide therapeutic effects to the surgical site.